

FINANCE COMMITTEE

MINUTES

February 13, 2020

Regular meeting of the Finance Committee was held on Thursday, February 13, 2020 at 7:00 p. m. in Room #112, Town Hall with the following members present: M. Trudell, J. Burke, A. Flowers, S. Ahern, M Ahigian, K. Greulich, A. Hamilton, D. Shea, M. Sullivan and L. Van der Linden. 7:15 p.m. D. Crowley Absent were S. Lawson, B. Bain, J. Fisher and L. Romanowiz. Also in attendance was Town Administrator J. Johnson, Assistant Town Administrator P. Shield, Finance Director M. Thompson, Town Accountant J. Cuneo, Assistant Collector/Treasurer L. Sinkus, DPW Director R. Mattson and Fire Chief T. Bailey, Building Maintenance Superintendent D. Anderson, Superintendent of Vehicle Maintenance T. Perciaccante, Superintendent of Highway D. Hand, Tree Warden J. Monti Town Engineer C. Balduf

7:00 p.m. – Quorum being present, the meeting was called to order by the Chairman M. Trudell.

May 4, 2020 Spring Annual Town Meeting

Public Works Budgets

Building Maintenance – This department is responsible for all the facilities throughout the Town. Town Administrator is recommending \$2,438,952. Increase in costs for the Old Town Hall is due to basic repairs and removal of items from the building bringing it back to look like the original court house. There has been some interest expressed in having a brewery located there. There are some structural issues; heating and ventilation are 27 years old and not efficient. Building has to be kept heated and cool in the summer. Town is looking to obtain State money for rehabilitation.

MOTION MADE by K. Greulich, Seconded by A. Flowers for Favorable Action on the Building Maintenance Budget in the amount of \$2,438,952, Motion Passed, (10-0-0) (10 voting) Unanimous

7:15 p.m. – Committee Member D. Crowley

Parks – New Tree Warden Justin Monti was introduced to the Committee by the Town Administrator. This department was previously one, but has been broken into two sections: Parks and Cemeteries and Highway. The addition of a bucket truck allows the department to be

pro-active with tree trimming throughout the Town. Artificial turf is more safer and more durable and allows for more playing time. 10-12 years is the life of a turf field.

MOTION MADE by D. Crowley, Seconded by J. Burke for Favorable Action on the Parks Department Budget in the amount of \$792,127, Motion Passed (11-0-0) (11 voting)

Engineering - \$358,109, C. Balduf, Town Engineer Reduction in hours for part-time inspectors. Dam Inspections are for dams that the Town owns, The Town is not responsible for the privately own ones.

DPW Administration - \$329,743 – Drug Testing Services in the amount of \$2,500 is for employee testing and is required by law.

DPW Highway – D. Hand, Superintendent - \$840,260 – There is a request for an additional employee in this department bringing the number of employees to eight. Chapter 90 Funds are used in the Fall Town Meeting and the money has been pretty level funded the last 10 years.

Snow & Ice – \$818,500- This amount is a guess and is dependent upon the number of storms. This year has been low to date but there is plenty of winter left. Any money left over will revert to next year's Free Cash.

Street Lighting - \$432,700 -

Solid Waste \$2,103,292 – \$125/ton cost. Town Administrator spoke to feeling that the Town has a great deal on the recycling costs. In the future, could possibly look into changing the amount of barrels and charging for the pick up of large items. More options need to be explored, due to the rising costs of trash collection and recycling.

Public Works Budgets Committee had questions on the potential impact on all the new construction in the Town. . It will mainly affect sewer and water, infrastructure will be within the buildings. Town's biggest concern is the impact is the traffic. Reconstruction of Rte. 1A corridor will start in the Spring of 2021 and only one lane of traffic will be allowed with the exception of when the school buses will be passing through. Train Station/West Street is the Town's responsibility.

Cemetery - \$168,941

Vehicle Maintenance – T. Perciaccante, Superintendent - \$464,539

MOTION MADE by D. Crowley, Seconded by K. Greulich for Favorable Action on the Public Works Budget in the amount of \$5,516,084, Motion Passed (11-0-0) (11 voting) Unanimous

Schedule – Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 24, 2020.

Minutes

MOTION MADE by A. Flowers, Seconded by M. Trudell to approve the February 3, 2020 Minutes, Motion Passed (10-0-1) (D. Crowley abstained) (11 voting)

MOTION MADE by D. Crowley, Seconded by S. Ahern to approve the February 6, 2020 Minutes, Motion Passed (10-0-1) (M. Ahigian abstained) (11 voting)

Adjourn:

MOTION MADE by D. Crowley, Seconded by M. Trudell to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m., Motion Passed (11-0-0) (11 voting) Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,

Clare P. Abril
Clerk